CRE'DIBLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *credible*.] Credibility; worthineſs of belief; juſt claim to belief.

The *credibleneſs* of a good part of theſe narratives has been confirmed to me by a practiſer of phyſick in the Eaſt Indies. *Boyle's Hiſtory of Firmneſs.*

CRE'DIBLY. *adv.* [from *credible*.] In a manner that claims belief.

This, with the loſs of ſo few of the Engliſh as is ſcarce credible, being, as hath been rather confidently than *credibly* reported, but of one man, though not a few hurt. *Bacon.*

CRE'DIT. *n. ſ.* [*credit*, French.]

1. Belief.

When the people heard theſe words, they gave no *credit* unto them, nor received them. 1 *Mac.* x. 46.

I may give *credit* to reports. *Addiſon's Spectator*, N°. 13e.

Some ſecret truths, from learned pride conceal'd,
To maids alone and children are reveal'd:
What though no *credit* doubting wits may give,
The fair and innocent ſhall ſtill believe. *Pope's Ra. of Lock.*

2. Honour; reputation.

I publiſhed, becauſe I was told I might pleaſe ſuch as it was a *credit* to pleaſe. *Pope.*

3. Eſteem; good opinion.

There is no decaying merchant, or inward beggar, hath ſo many tricks to uphold the *credit* of their wealth, as theſe empty perſons have to maintain the *credit* of their ſufficiency. *Bacon.*

His learning, though a poet ſaid it,
Before a play, would loſe no *credit*. *Swift.*

Yes, while I live, no rich or noble knave,
Shall walk the world in *credit* to his grave. *Pope's Hor. b.* ii.

4. Faith; teſtimony.

We are contented to take this upon your *credit*, and to think it may be. *Hooker, b.* iv. *ſect.* 12.

The things which we properly believe, be only ſuch as are received upon the *credit* of divine teſtimony. *Hooker, b.* v.

The author would have done well to have left ſo great a paradox only to the *credit* of a ſingle aſſertion. *Locke.*

5. Truſt repoſed.

Credit is nothing but the expectation of money, within ſome limited time. *Locke.*

6. Promiſe given.

They have never thought of violating the publick *credit*, or of alienating the revenues to other uſes than to what they have been thus aſſigned. *Addiſon's Remarks on Italy.*

7. Influence; power not compulſive; intereſt.

She employed his uttermoſt *credit* to relieve us, which was as great as a beloved ſon with a mother. *Sidney.*

They ſent him likewiſe a copy of their ſupplication to the king, and deſired him to uſe his *credit* that a treaty might be entered into. *Clarendon, b.* ii.

Having *credit* enough with his maſter to provide for his own intereſt, he troubled not himſelf for that of other men. *Claren.*

To CRE'DIT. *v. a.* [*credo*, Latin.]

1. To believe.

Now I change my mind,
And partly *credit* things that do preſage. *Shakeſp. Jul. Cæſ.*

To *credit* the unintelligibility both of this union and motion, we need no more than to conſider it. *Glanv. Sceſ. c.* 4.

2. To procure credit or honour to any thing.

May here her monument ſtand ſo,
To *credit* this rude age; and ſhow
To future times, that even we
Some patterns did of virtue ſee. *Waller.*

It was not upon deſign to *credit* theſe papers, nor to compliment a ſociety ſo much above flattery. *Glanv. Sceſ. Pref.*

At preſent you *credit* the church as much by your government, as you did the ſchool formerly by your wit. *South.*

3. To truſt; to confide in.

4. To admit as a debtor.

CRE'DITABLE. *adj.* [from *credit*.]

1. Reputable; above contempt.

He ſettled him in a good *creditable* way of living, having procured him by his intereſt one of the beſt places of the country. *Arbuthnot's Hiſtory of John Bull.*

2. Honourable; eſtimable.

The contemplation of things, that do not ſerve to promote our happineſs, is but a more ſpecious and ingenious ſort of idleneſs, a more pardonable and *creditable* kind of ignorance. *Tillotſon, Sermon* i.

CRE'DITABLENESS. *n. ſ.* [from *creditable*.] Reputation; eſtimation.

Among all theſe ſnares, there is none more entangling than the *creditableneſs* and repute of cuſtomary vices. *Decay of Piety.*

CRE'DITABLY. *adv.* [from *creditable*.] Reputably; without diſgrace.

Many will chuſe rather to neglect their duty ſafely and *creditably*, than to get a broken pate in the church's ſervice, only to be rewarded with that which will break their hearts too. *South's Sermons.*

CRE'DITOR. *n. ſ.* [*creditor*, Latin.] He to whom a debt is owed; he that gives credit: correlative to *debtor*.

There came divers of Anthonio's *creditors* in my company to Venice, that ſwear he cannot chuſe but break. *Shakeſpeare.*

I am ſo uſed to conſider myſelf as *creditor* and debtor, that I often ſtate my accounts after the ſame manner, with regard to heaven and my own ſoul. *Addiſon's Spectator*, N°. 549.

No man of honour, as that word is uſually underſtood, did ever pretend that his honour obliged him to be chaſte or temperate, to pay his *creditors*, to be uſeful to his country, to do good to mankind, to endeavour to be wiſe or learned, to regard his word, his promiſe, or his oath. *Swift.*

CREDU'LITY. *n. ſ.* [*credulité*, French; *credulitas*, Latin.] Eaſineſs of belief; readineſs of credit.

The poor Plangus, being ſubject to that only diſadvantage of honeſt hearts, *credulity*, was perſuaded by him. *Sidney.*

The prejudice of *credulity* may, in ſome meaſure, be cured by learning to ſet a high value on truth. *Watts's Logick.*

CRE'DULOUS. *adj.* [*credulus*, Latin.] Apt to believe; unſuſpecting; eaſily deceived.

A *credulous* father, and a brother noble,
Whoſe nature is ſo far from doing harm,
That he ſuſpects none. *Shakeſpeare's King Lear.*

CRE'DULOUSNESS. *n. ſ.* [from *credulous*.] Aptneſs to believe; credulity.

CREED. *n. ſ.* [from *credo*, the firſt word of the apoſtles creed.]

1. A form of words in which the articles of faith are comprehended.

The larger and fuller view of this foundation is ſet down in the *creeds* of the church. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*

Will they, who decry *creeds* and creedmakers, ſay that one who writes a treatiſe of morality ought not to make in it any collection of moral precepts? *Fiddes's Sermons.*

2. Any ſolemn profeſſion of principles or opinion.

For me, my lords,
I love him not, nor fear him; there's my *creed*. *Shakeſp.*

To CREEK. *v. a.* [See *To* CREAK.] To make a harſh noiſe.

Shall I ſtay here,
Creeking my ſhoes on the plain maſonry. *Shakeſpeare.*

CREEK. *n. ſ.* [cpecca, Sax. *kreke*, Dutch.]

1. A prominence or jut in a winding coaſt.

As ſtreams, which with their winding banks do play,
Stopp'd by their *creeks*, run ſoftly through the plain. *Davies.*

They on the bank of Jordan, by a *creek*,
Where winds with reeds and oſiers whiſp'ring play,
Their unexpected loſs and plaints outbreath'd. *Parad. Reg.*

2. A ſmall port; a bay; a cove.

A law was made here to ſtop their paſſage in every port and *creek*. *Davies on Ireland.*

3. Any turn, or alley.

A back-friend, a ſhoulder-clapper; one that commands
The paſſages of alleys, *creeks*, and narrow lands. *Shakeſp.*

CRE'EKY. *adj.* [from *creek*.] Full of creeks; unequal; winding.

Who, leaning on the belly of a pot,
Pour'd forth a water, whoſe outguſhing flood
Ran bathing all the *creeky* ſhore a-flot,
Whereon the Trojan prince ſpilt Turnus' blood. *Spenſer.*

To CREEP. *v. n.* [preter. *crept*; cnýpan, Sax. *krepan*, Germ.]

1. To move with the belly to the ground without legs; as a worm.

Ye that walk
The earth, and ſtately tread, or lowly *creep*! *Mi't. Pa. Loſt.*

And every creeping thing that *creeps* the ground. *Milton.*

If they cannot diſtinguiſh *creeping* from flying, let them lay down Virgil, and take up Ovid de Ponto. *Dryd. Dedicat. Æn.*

2. To grow along the ground, or on other ſupports.

The grottos cool, with ſhady poplars crown'd,
And *creeping* vines on arbours weav'd around. *Dryden.*

3. To move forward without bounds or leaps; as inſects.

4. To move ſlowly and feebly.

To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow,
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,
To the laſt ſyllable of recorded time. *Shakeſp. Macbeth.*

Why ſhould a man
Sleep when he wakes, and *creep* into the jaundice
By being peeviſh? *Shakeſpeare's Merchant of Venice.*

He who *creeps* after plain, dull, common ſenſe, is ſafe from committing abſurdities; but can never reach the excellence of wit. *Dryden's Tyrannick Love.*

5. To move ſecretly and clandeſtinely.

I'll *creep* up into the chimney.——
—There they always uſe to diſcharge their birding-pieces: *creep* into the kiln-hole. *Shakeſp. Merry Wives of Windſor.*

Whate'er you are,
That in this deſart inacceſſible,
Under the ſhade of melancholy boughs,
Loſe and neglect the *creeping* hours of time. *Shakeſpeare.*

Of this ſort are they which *creep* into houſes, and lead captive ſilly women. 2 *Tim.* iii. 6.

Thou makeſt darkneſs, and it is night wherein all the beaſts of the foreſt do *creep* forth. *Pſal.* civ. 20.

Now

Now and then a work or two has *crept* in to keep his firſt deſign in countenance. *Atterbury.*

6. To move timorouſly without ſoaring, or venturing into dangers.

Paradiſe Loſt is admirable; but am I therefore bound to maintain, that there are no flats amongſt his elevations, when it is evident he *creeps* along ſometimes for above an hundred lines together? *Dryden.*

We here took a little boat, to *creep* along the ſea-ſhore as far as Genoa. *Addiſon's Remarks on Italy.*

7. To come unexpected; to ſteal forward unheard and unſeen.

By thoſe gifts of nature and fortune he *creeps*, nay he flies, into the favour of poor ſilly women. *Sidney, b.* ii.

It ſeems, the marriage of his brother's wife
Has *crept* too near his conſcience.
——No, his conſcience
Has *crept* too near another lady. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* VIII.

Neceſſity enforced them, after they grew full of people, to ſpread themſelves, and *creep* out of Shinar, or Babylonia. *Raleigh's Hiſtory.*

None pretends to know from how remote corners of thoſe frozen mountains, ſome of thoſe fierce nations firſt *crept* out. *Temple.*

It is not to be expected that every one ſhould guard his underſtanding from being impoſed on, by the ſophiſtry which *creeps* into moſt of the books of argument. *Locke.*

8. To behave with ſervility; to fawn; to bend.

They were us'd to bend,
To ſend their ſmiles before them to Achilles,
To come as humbly as they us'd to *creep*
To holy altars. *Shakeſpeare's Troilus and Creſſida.*

CRE'EPER. *n. ſ.* [from *creep*.]

1. A plant that ſupports itſelf by means of ſome ſtronger body.

Plants that put forth their ſap haſtily, have bodies not proportionable to their length; therefore they are winders or *creepers*; as ivy, briony, and woodbine. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſtory.*

2. An iron uſed to ſlide along the grate in kitchens.

3. A kind of patten or clog worn by women.

CREE'PHOLE. *n. ſ.* [*creep* and *hole*.]

1. A hole into which any animal may creep to eſcape danger.

2. A ſubterfuge; an excuſe.

CREE'PINGLY. *adv.* [from *creeping*.] Slowly; after the manner of a reptile.

The joy, which wrought into Pygmalion's mind, was even ſuch as, by each degree of Zelmane's words, *creepingly* entered into Philoclea's. *Sidney, b.* ii.

CREMA'TION. *n. ſ.* [*crematio*, Latin.] A burning.

CRE'MOR. *n. ſ.* [Latin.] A milky ſubſtance; a ſoft liquor reſembling cream.

The food is ſwallowed into the ſtomach, where, mingled with diſſolvent juices, it is reduced into a chyle or *cremor*. *Ray.*

CRE'NATED. *adj.* [from *crena*, Latin.] Notched; indented.

The cells are prettily *crenated*, or notched quite round the edges; but not ſtraited down to any depth. *Woodw. on Foſſils.*

CRE'PANE. *n. ſ.* [With farriers.] An ulcer ſeated in the midſt of the forepart of the foot, cauſed by a bilious, ſharp, and biting humour that frets the ſkin, or by a hurt given by ſtriking of the hinder feet. *Farrier's Dict.*

To CRE'PITATE. *v. n.* [*crepito*, Latin.] To make a ſmall crackling noiſe.

CREPITA'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *crepitate*.] A ſmall crackling noiſe.

CRE'PT. *particip.* [from *creep*.]

There are certain men *creſt* in unawares. *Jude*, iv.

This fair vine, but that her arms ſurround
Her marry'd elm, had *crept* along the ground. *Pope.*

CREPU'SCULE. *n. ſ.* [*crepuſculum*, Lat.] Twilight. *Dict.*

CREPU'SCULOUS. *adj.* [*crepuſculum*, Latin.] Glimmering; in a ſtate between light and darkneſs.

A cloſe apprehenſion of the one, might perhaps afford a glimmering light and *crepuſculous* glance of the other. *Brown.*

The beginnings of philoſophy were in a *crepuſculous* obſcurity, and it is yet ſcarce paſt the dawn. *Glanv. Sceſ. c.* 22.

CRE'SCENT. *adj.* [from *creſco*, Latin.] Increaſing; growing; in a ſtate of increaſe.

I have ſeen him in Britain: he was then of a *creſcent* note. *Shakeſpeare's Cymbeline.*

With theſe in troop
Came Aſtoreth, whom the Phœnicians call'd
Aſtarte, queen of heaven, with *creſcent* horns. *Milt. P. L.*

CRE'SCENT. *n. ſ.* [*creſcent*, Lat.] The moon in her ſtate of increaſe; any ſimilitude of the moon increaſing.

My pow'r's a *creſcent*, and my auguring hope
Says it will come to th' full. *Shakeſp. Anthony and Cleopatra.*

Or Bactrian ſophy, from the horns
Of Turkiſh *creſcent*, leaves all waſte beyond
The realm of Aladule, in his retreat. *Milton's Parad. Loſt.*

Jove in duſky clouds involves the ſkies,
And the faint *creſcent* ſhoots by fits before their eyes. *Dryd.*

And two fair *creſcents* of tranſlucent horn,
The brows of all their young increaſe adorn. *Pope's Odyſſey.*

CRE'SCIVE. *adv.* [from *creſco*, Latin.] Increaſing; growing.

So the prince obſcur'd his contemplation
Under the veil of wildneſs, which, no doubt,
Grew like the ſummer-graſs, faſteſt by night,
Unſeen, yet *creſcive* in his faculty. *Shakeſp. Henry V.*

CRESS. *n. ſ.* [perhaps from *creſco*, it being a quick grower.] An herb.

Its flower conſiſts of four leaves, placed in form of a croſs: the pointil ariſes from the center of the flower-cup, and becomes a roundiſh ſmooth fruit, divided into two cells, and furniſhed with ſeeds, generally ſmooth. It is cultivated as a ſallad-herb, and chiefly eſteemed in the Winter and Spring, being one of the warm kind. *Miller.*

His court with nettles and with *creſſes* ſtor'd,
With ſoups unbought, and ſallads, bleſt his board. *Pope.*

CRE'SSET. *n. ſ.* [*croiſſete*, Fr. becauſe beacons had croſſes anciently on their tops.] A great light ſet upon a beacon, light-houſe, or watch-tower. *Hanmer.* They ſtill raiſe armies in Scotland by carrying about the fire-croſs.

At my nativity
The front of heav'n was full of firy ſparks,
Of burning *creſſets*. *Shakeſpeare's Henry* IV. *p.* i.

From the arched roof,
Pendent by ſubtle magick, many a row
Of ſtarry lamps, and blazing *creſſets*, fed
With naphtha and aſphaltus, yielded light
As from a ſky. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* i. *l.* 726.

CREST. *n. ſ.* [*criſta*, Latin.]

1. The plume of feathers on the top of the ancient helmet.

His valour, ſhewn upon our *creſts* to-day,
Hath taught us how to cheriſh ſuch high deeds,
Ev'n in the boſom of our adverſaries. *Shakeſp. Henry* IV.

2. The comb of a cock.

Others, on ground
Walk'd firm; the *creſted* cock, whoſe clarion ſounds
The ſilent hours. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* vii. *l.* 442.

3. The ornament of the helmet in heraldry.

Of what eſteem *creſts* were, in the time of king Edward the third's reign, may appear by his giving an eagle, which he himſelf had formerly born, for a *creſt* to William Montacute, earl of Saliſbury. *Camden's Remains.*

The horn;
It was a *creſt* ere thou waſt born:
Thy father's father wore it. *Shakeſpeare's As you like it.*

4. Any tuft or ornament on the head; as ſome which the poets aſſign to ſerpents.

Their *creſts* divide,
And, tow'ring o'er his head, in triumph ride. *Dryd. Virgil.*

5. Pride; ſpirit; fire; courage; loftineſs of mien.

When horſes ſhould endure the bloody ſpur,
They fall their *creſts*. *Shakeſpeare.*

CRE'STED. *adj.* [from *creſt*; *criſtatus*, Latin.]

1. Adorned with a plume or creſt.

The bold Aſcalonites,
Then grov'ling ſoil'd their *creſted* helmets in the duſt. *Milt.*

At this, for new replies he did not ſtay;
But lac'd his *creſted* helm, and ſtrode away. *Dryden.*

2. Wearing a comb.

The *creſted* bird ſhall by experience know,
Jove made not him his maſter-piece below. *Dryden's Fables.*

CREST-FALLEN. *adj.* [*creſt* and *fall*.] Dejected; ſunk; diſpirited; cowed; heartleſs; ſpiritleſs.

I warrant you, they would whip me with their fine wits, 'till I were as *creſt-fallen* as a dried pear. *Sh. Mer. Wi. of Windſ.*

They prolate their words in a whining kind of querulous tone, as if they were ſtill complaining and *creſt-fallen*. *Howel.*

CRE'STLESS. *adj.* [from *creſt*.] Not dignified with coat-armour; not of any eminent family.

His grandfather was Lionel duke of Clarence,
Third ſon to the third Edward king of England,
Sprung *creſtleſs* yeomen from ſo deep a root. *Shakeſpeare.*

CRETA'CEOUS. *adj.* [*creta*, chalk, Lat.] Abounding with chalk; having the qualities of chalk; chalky.

What gives the light, ſeems hard to ſay; whether it be the *cretaceous* ſalt, the nitrous ſalt, or ſome igneous particles. *Grew.*

Nor from the ſable ground expect ſucceſs,
Nor from *cretaceous*, ſtubborn and jejune. *Philips.*

CRETA'TED. *adj.* [*cretatus*, Latin.] Rubbed with chalk. *Dict.*

CRE'VICE. *n. ſ.* [from *crever*, Fr. *crepare*, Latin, to burſt] A crack; a cleft; a narrow opening.

I pried me through the *crevice* of a wall,
When for his hand he had his two ſons heads. *Shakeſpeare.*

I thought it no breach of good-manners to peep at a *crevice*, and look in at people ſo well employed. *Addiſon's Spectator.*

CREW. *n. ſ.* [probably from cnub, Saxon.]

1. A company of people aſſociated for any purpoſe; as *gallant crew*, for troops. *Chevy-chaſe.*

There a noble *crew*
Of lords and ladies ſtood on every ſide,
Which, with their preſence fair, the place much beautify'd. *Fairy Queen, b.* i. *cant.* 4. *ſtanz.* 7.

2. The company of a ſhip.

SAMUEL JOHNSON *A Dictionary of the English Language* LONDON, 1755 THE WARNOCK LIBRARY Octavo